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The SAGINAW·AFRO HERALD

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VOLUME 2 NO. 3 JANUARY 19, 1968 111 SOUTH THIRD ST. SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48607

ALL-OUT BLACK VOTE NECESSARY FOR MILLAGE

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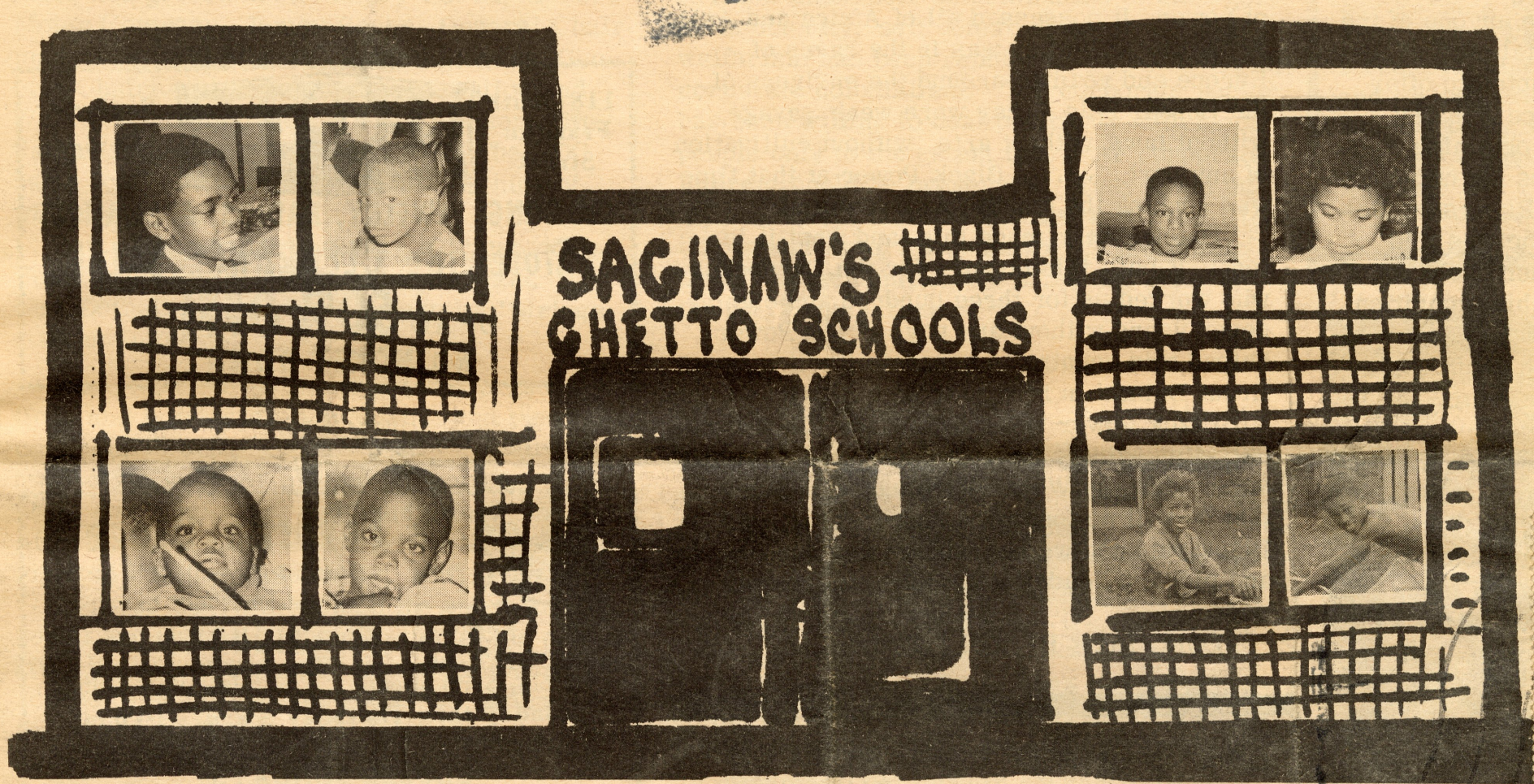

THEIR EDUCATIONAL FUTURE WILL DEPEND ON YOUR VOTE !!!

For many years Black parents have been aware of the inferior "production-line" education that our children have been receiving in the Saginaw public schools. A few Black parents have come forward individually and in small groups to try and remedy this terrible situation that affects the lives of our black children. Despite their courageous efforts, the same conditions still exist in the schools today.

On March 19, 1968 ALL Black Parents and Black Voters of all ages will have a chance to do something about this inferior education. Our moment of truth has arrived. All we have to do is VOTE -Yes in support of the School Millage on March 19. Our task is simple in comparison to the great change that will take place in the ghetto schools if the new school program proposed by Supt. Jack P. Taylor goes into effect. There has been a lot of publicity about the BRITE project and the HUB Center project but they are meaningless if the BLACK voters do not vote 100% in the forthcoming special millage election in favor of the millage. WE have got to Vote YES!!

The White voters do not want this millage to pass. The white WESTSIDERS are working now to KILL the millage and to KILL the proposed Educational projects because they feel that the Black Children will benefit, which they will, but white children and the whole city of Saginaw will benefit from this revolutionary Educational change.

ALL of us, BLACK parents, teachers, housewifes, laborers, businessmen and businesswomen, preachers, pimps, prostitutes, maids, winos, drop-Outs, Democrats and Republicans, professionals and unskilled, will have to forget our differences and come TOGETHER and Vote YES on the school millage on March 19. The FUTURE of OUR Black Children is up to YOU!!

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INSIDE STORIES

NO JUSTICE FOR A BLACK VETERAN AT SAGINAW'S VA HOSPITAL

By: C. Pato Boyd

On Thursday, Jan. 4, 1968, Mrs. Virginia Roberson of 630 Kinney Blvd. took her uncle, Mr. Clarence Woodard, 1114 Fitzhugh St., to the Saginaw VA Hospital to receive medical attention for him.

Mrs. Roberson and her uncle stated that they were kept waiting five hours before anyone of the hospital staff even attempted to offer service. Finally after obtaining chest x-rays for her uncle Mrs. Roberson alleges she was told that her uncle had a bronchial condition and that the hospital had no room available for him, but a letter would be sent to her when a room was available for her uncle.

Mr. Woodard complained of being very ill and that he wanted to remain at the hospital for further medical attention. While Mrs. Roberson was trying to get help for her uncle, some white veterans came into the VA hospital from upstate Michigan and were immediately given medical attention and beds were made available for the white veterans. Mr. Woodard was sent home.

Later that night Mr. Clarence Woodard, a former U. S. army seargent and a World War 11 veteran, DIED at his residence.

(What in the hell have BLACK veterans been fighting for? Even though he was critcally ill, the Saginaw VA Hospital could probably given the late Mr. Woodard a few more days to live, had they only afforded him medical services equal to those given White veterans. But no, he was BLACK.)

WHAT IS THIS BLACK POWER?

An old man who had served about two-thirds of his life in direct slavery, told my father:"Whatsoever you have that the White man and the dumb Nigger don't like, -that is the very thing YOU NEED! Stick to it like a sick kitten to a hot brick in zero weather".

The dumb Nigger and Whitey do not like BLACK POWER, need I say more?

Black Power in the new world order, which is now being established throughout the world, is a moral re-armament of all Black People. It's here to stay!

Black Power is nothing new. It has only been used by Whitey. Before the White race ever came to appear upon the scene of the world, Black Power was dominant upon the earth, and held the sceptre of science and of power. It possessed all of Africa and Asia. At that time, Whitey was in the caves of Europe and roamed around the environs of the Boreal Pole. They were weak, savage, without laws, without arts, without cultivation of any sort..... Black Power at that time was rocking the cradle of civilization.

Black Power made this land what it is today. It built this country for the Europeans who worked us for three hundred and eighty-seven years without any pay. Black Power helped this country to separate itself from Great Britain in 1776, without any pay.

Black Power is Truth and the Black man's Salvation. Whitey knows that Black Power will surely destroy White Supremacy. He knows that he will no longer be able to walk over Black men and women without any respect, and pick our leaders, our jobs, and run our lives.

LONG LIVE BLACK POWER.....

YOUR LOCAL POLICE ARE ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

POINTS TO PONDER

With the abundance of Black athletic talent in Saginaw, we have yet to produce and worthwhile contributions to the pro ranks, some where down the line we're missing the boat. Is it the coaching Whatever it is, Black Alumni, we owe it to our offsprings to find the reasons why.

There have been many complaints by black brothers, who have been victimized by the sadistic city police. about the inhumane conditions in the city jail, located under city hall. It's rumored prisoners are on a budget of 13¢ per day. For three meals!!!!

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EDITORIALS

FEDERATION FOR SELF DETERMINATION

Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. announced Friday, January 5, that the militant Federation for Self-Determination has voted to reject a $100,000 grant from the New Detroit Committee, is withdrawing its proposal, and is also severing all relations with the New Detroit Committee, appointed by Governor Romney and Mayor Cavanaugh. He also announced that the three black militant members of the NDC will no longer participate in the work of the committee.

The NDC was brought into being immediately after the black rebellion of July, 1967. Its purpose was to build a "New Detroit"--to refurbish the societal fabric of the Detroit Metropolitan region for all. The appointees include Detroit's men of highest stature in business, labor and government. Henry FordII, of Ford Motor Company, James Roche, General Chairman of General Motors, Lynn Townsend, General Chairman of Chrysler Corporation and Walter P. Reuther of the U.A.W. exemplify the prestigeousness of the group. The NDC had a total of thirty-nine members, nine of whom were black.

Rev. Cleage, the General Chairman of the Federation For Self Determination said, "The New Detroit Committee can keep its "strings-attached money."

The FSD emerged when several organizations and influential individuals from the black community recognized the need for their own unification in order to become more accountable, communicative and helpful to one another After consideralble deliberation, the FSD formalized itself on October 12, 1967.

Because the NDC became the agent for social and physical rehabilitation of the city after the rebellion, and became the locus of access to significant funds, it was natural for the FSD to appeal to them for financial assistance in its initiation of its programs.

The Federation's major objective is to promote self-determination for black people through a dynamic program to strengthen black organizations and political, social and economic institutions. That black people must make the decisions affecting their lives just like most white people cna do, is a message that everyone should have read, including the NDC.

Mr. Hudson announced in his press conference on January 4, several conditions to the New Detroit's granting of money to the militant FSD. The unacceptable conditions included an overseer who would also coordinate the Federations relationship to other organizations

The efforts begun by the Federation shall continue in a manner to insure the integrity, dignity and pride of the black people of Detroit. The Federation herewith refuses the $100,000, or sixteen cents per black person in Detroit, which with the best of intentions would be insufficient, but as offered would set an example nationwide, mortagaging the freedom of black people and playing havoc with their self respect.

The following telegram was sent by Rev. Cleage to Mr. Joseph L. Hudson, Jr., Chairman of the NDC.:

"The Federation for self determination has voted to withdraw its proposal from the New Detroit Committee. It is severing all relations with the New Detroit Committee. As stated in the committee meeting, the Federation refuses to accept money with strings attached."

Henceforward, there will be no militant members on the NDC. Lorenzo Freeman and Norvelle Harrington, members of the Federation have resigned from the NDC. Alvin Harrison has moved out of the city permanently.

It is clear that the NDC, which is composed of gigantic corporate elites, has failed in its efforts to improve the lot of black people. It is also clear that the prior attempts by municipal, state and federal governments have failed. The common denomination in all their failures has been their inflexible unwillingness to allow black self-determination to emerge.

In our city, self defeating governmental welfarism has been replaced, temporarily, by corporate colonialism. The corporate sector has been willing to deal positively with black people only to the extent that their corporate interest could be preserved. They seem unable to accept the fact that black communities throughout America consider the attainment of self-determination the basic objective of the black revolution.

THE MAN'S WATCHING YOU !!!
CHECK HIM OUT TOO...

Attention: A Plead For Unity From Phila. Pa.

****

FRAME-UP OF THE CENTURY

****

We need your help NOW to defend Black victims of WHITE POWER.

The city of Philadelphia has falsely accused six of our Black brothers of various criminal charges and are presently holding them for ransom in the form of excessive bail.

When United Power and Afro-Herald staff were stranded in Washington D.C. this past October, our brothers and sisters from Philadelphia were among those who dug deep into their pockets and gave freely of their money, time and efforts to see to it that we made it home O.K.

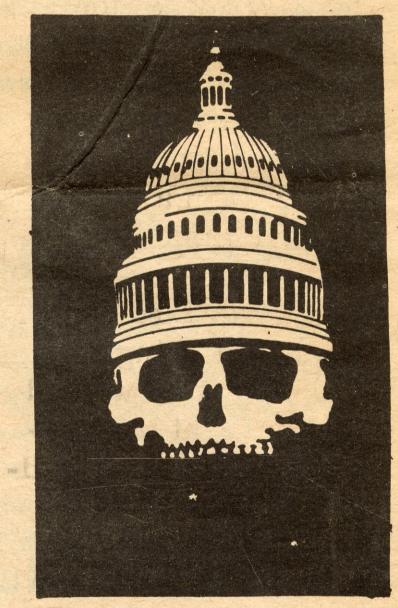
During the recent Arab-Israel uproar, the Jews of Saginaw alone, sent over $30,000 to Israel to help their brothers. If we are to survive in this racist United States, Black people must show this same kind of UNITY, for what we allow to happen to one of us, can also happen to ANY of us.

We ask people from all walks of life to come to our brothers'aid. We cannot let these brothers go down in vain. It is now time for a show of UNITY among Black people all across this nation. we NEED YOUR HELP NOW!!! We must not allow White Power to get away with the frame-up of Black Militants.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUPPORT TO:
David Richardson
C/O Mary Richardson
1308 N. Huntington Park Ave
Philadelphia, Pa.

READ
MUHAMMAD SPEAKS

"Be as proud of your race today as our Fathers were yesterday. We have a beautiful history and we will create another in the future that will astonish the world."
Marcus Garvey



The Panther and the Lash... Langston Hughes

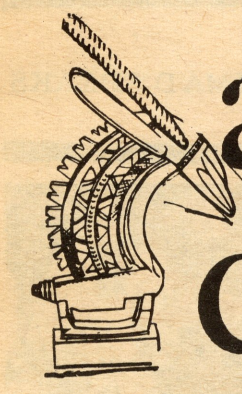
FROSTING

Freedom
Is just frosting
On somebody else's
Cake--------
And so must be
Till we
Learn how to
Bake.

IMPASSE

I could tell you
If I wanted to,
What makes me
What I am.

But I don't
Really want to------
And you don't
Give a damn.



afroamerican culture

Contrary to common belief, the Black race did not come to the United States culturally empty-handed. The Africans were familiar with literature and art for many, many years before their contact with the Western world. Before the breaking up of the social structure of the West African states of Ghana, Melle(Mali) and Songhay, and the internal strife that made the slave trade possible, the forefathers of the Africans who eventually became slaves in the United States lived in a society where university life was fairly common and scholars were beheld with reverence.

During the period in West African history-from the early part of the fourteenth century to the time of the Moorish invasion in 1591, the City of Timbuktu, with the University of Sankore in the Songhay Empire, was the intellectual center of Africa.

Ahmed Baba was the last chancellor of the University of Sankore. He was one of the greatest African scholars of the late sixteenth century. His life is a brilliant example of the range and depth of West African intellectual activity before the colonial era. Ahmed Baba was the author of more than 40 books; nearly every one of these books had a different theme. In 1592, Timbuktu was invaded by the Morroccans and he was one of the first citizens to protest this occupation of his home town. He was imprisoned, along with other scholars and eventually exiled to Morrocco. During his expatriation from Timbuktu, his collection of 1700 books, one of the richest libraries of his day, was lost.

During the Moorish occupation, West Africa entered a sad period of decline. Wreck and ruin became the order of the day. When the Europeans arrived in this part of Africa and saw these conditions, they assumed that nothing of order and value had ever existed in these countries. For over 400 years this mistaken impression, too often repeated, has influenced the interpretation of African and Afro-American life in history.

Africans first came to the new world as explorers. They were with the exploratory expeditions of Balboa, the discoverer of the Pacific Ocean, and Cortes the conqueror of Mexico. An African explorer helped to open up New Mexico and Arizona and prepared the way for the settlement of the Southwestern United States.

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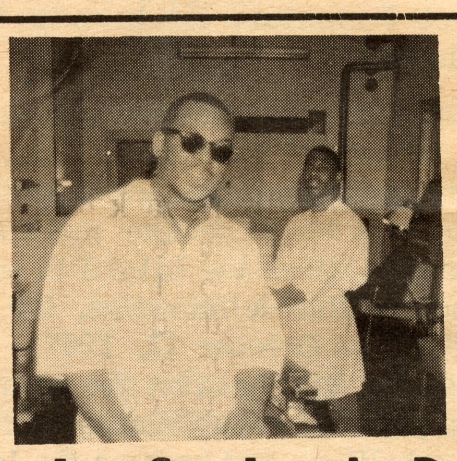

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Down Front

This section is for the sound of soul in anyway as long as it is printable, readable and for the interest and information of our community.

"Peace if possible; But Justice at any cost."

The above is not simply a revolutionary statement. It goes far beyond revolution.

The profound meaning is this: Justice should never be compromised for peace, jobs, housing, good relations or anything else. It means that the fight for peace is secondary to the fight for justice. In this meaning lies the great fallacy of the approach to and the attack on our problem today.

The jury system is said to be the foundation of justice in the United States today. The defendant is guaranteed a fair trial before selected jurymen of his peers--his race, his neighbors, his fellow workers, his religious associates.

The fact that this right-which is basic to justice-has been and continues to be violated in cases where black people are concerned and the fact that 40 million black people almost silently and meekly have accepted this fundamental infringement of this very basic right should clearly indicate that a shift in strategy is imperative. Once the basic evil is effectively attacked, other obstacles will fall.

It is a matter of not knowing or not recognizing where white ends and black begins: a black person is involved in litigation; a white jury is chosen. An uprising happens in a black community; white troops and white policemen are called.

If under this arrangement black people always received positive justice, it still would remain an unsatisfactory arrangement. But when it becomes, as it is, a device for dispensing injustice to black people, then every human being-and those who may not be human, but know what justice means-not only should, but must, act against the wicked and cowardly scheme.

Take a look backward at injustice in action. The recent cases that stemmed from Saginaw's policemen's riot of last summer. An all white jury was selected to convict scores of black people on riot charges even though the prosecution could produce no physical evidence to connect any one of them with a crime.

Not all Americans has approved or encouraged this injustice. But the crime of the majority is that they allow injustice without any protest.

BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL; AND IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL TO BE BLACK !!!

FREEDOM

Freedom will not come
Today, this year
Nor ever
Through compromise
and fear.
I have as much right
As the other fellow has
To stand
On my two feet
And own the land.

I tire so of hearing
people say,
Let things take their
course.
Tomorrow is another
day.
I do not need my freedom when I'm dead.
I cannot live on
tomorrow's bread.
Freedom
Is a strong seed
Planted
In a great need.
I live here, too.
I want Freedom
Just as you.

GO SLOW

Go slow, they say-----
While the bite
Of the dog is fast.
Go slow, I hear-----
While they tell me
You can't eat here!
You can't live here!
You can't work here!
Don't demonstrate! Wait
While they lock the gate
Am I supposed to be
God,
Or an angel with wings
And a halo on my head
While jobless I starve
dead?
Am I supposed to
forgive
And meekly live
Going slow, slow, slow,
Slow, slow, slow,
Slow, slow,
Slow,
Slow,
Slow?
????
???
??
?

****

EDITOR GOES TO TRIAL FRIDAY ON HARRASSING CONDUCT CHARGE.

****

Arthur Smith, managing editor of the Saginaw Afro-Herald, is scheduled to appear before Judge McDonald in Municipal Court, City Hall, Friday, January 12, 1968, at 2:00P. M. Smith is to be tried on a charge of Harrassing Conduct growing out of a confrontation with several police officers and volunteers in front of a local restaurant on Lapeer St. Smith says, "on the night of December 12, the police and the posse(volunteers) invaded a ghetto restaurant seeking revenge for an officer who had been slain earlier in the day while investigating an armed robbery." He stated further that his arrest came when he exchanged words with a policeman who pointed a shotgun at his head for no apparent reason.

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BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL!!!

EVERYONE READS AFRO

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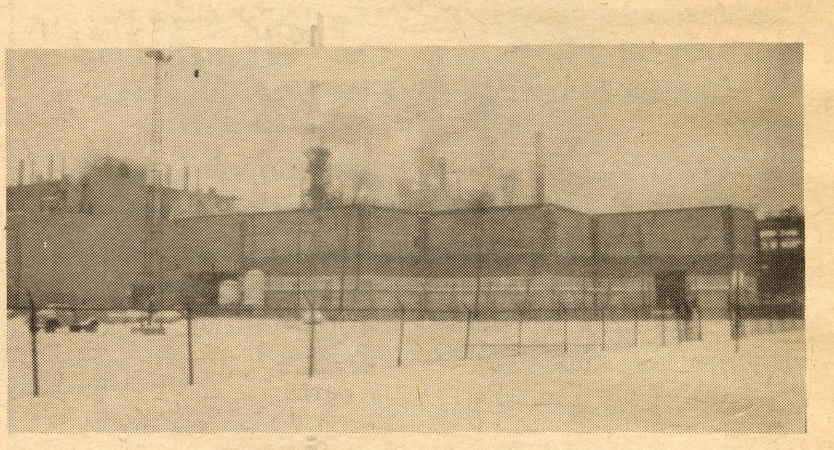

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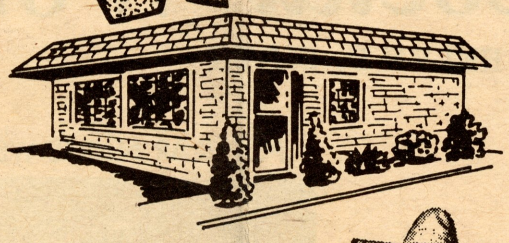

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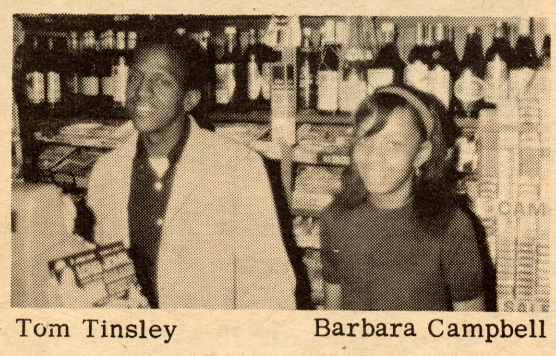

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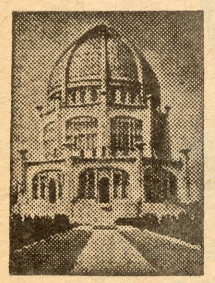

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The Social World

By: HELEN D. SMITH

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MARTHA & THE VANDELLAS

Martha and the Vandellas have gained much acclaim as vocal entertainers. The group, consisting of Martha Reeves, Rosalind Ashford and Betty Kelly, obtained their audition and subsequent recording contract while Martha was employed as a secretary at the Motown Record Corporation.

After doing the background for Motown star Marvin Gaye's hit record, "Stubborn Kind Of Fellow," the trio's unique talent was realized and therewith came their first single release, "Come And Get These Memories."

"Memories" put Martha and the Vandellas on the hit tune charts early in 1963, and they have been there ever since. They crashed the Top Ten with "Heat Wave," "Quicksand," and "Live Wire", then did the smash hit "Dancing In The Streets" which was destined for Number One almost from the day it was released. The list goes on including hits like "Wild One' "Nowhere To Run," "I'm Ready For Love" and many, many more.

Now with three best-selling albums and ten hit singles to their credit, The Vandellas are full-fledged members of the growing Motown list of stars. They've toured abroad three times and continue to be booked solid for months ahead for personal appearances.

Hats off to these "Soul Sisters" who are a sterling example of what belief in oneself can do.

TOP TEN OF THE WEEK

1. We're A Winner.....Impressions
2. Chain Of Fools.....Aretha Franklin
3. Honey Chile.....Martha & Vandellas
4. You.....Marvin Gaye
5. I Can't Stand Myself.....James Brown
6. I Wish It Would Rain.....Temptations
7. Mellow Moonlight....Leon Haywood
8. You Don't Need Me.....Foundations
9. If I Could Build My World Around You.....
   Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terrell
10. My Baby Must Be A Magician.....
    Marvelletes

SOUL SOUND OF THE WEEK

You Don't Have Say You Love Me...
The Four Sonics

POPULAR NURSE WEDS

Wedding bells rang on the Saturday before the new year, Dec. 30, 1967, when Miss Carnell Thomas became the bride of Mr. Milton Webb at a private ceremony, at 321 N. Jefferson. We at the AFRO extend our sincere congratulations to the new couple.

INTRODUCING THE APHRODITES CLUB

One of the newer social clubs in Northeast Saginaw is the "Aphrodites". A group of swinging young ladies whose common objective is to enjoy life and do everything in their power to see that others also have the opportunity to do so. The club consist of Pres., Dorothy Martin; Vice Pres., Jackie Pryor; Sect., Dorothy Wicker; Treas., Rose Valley; and social coordinator, Pat Thomas. The club plans to help civic organizations in the black community, an objective every club should consider. Hats off to you "sisters"

A baby shower will be given Saturday, Jan. 13, 1968, for AFRO Social Editor, Mrs. Helen D. Smith. The shower will be given by Mrs. Carnell Webb at her home at 321 N. Jefferson